Alberta INDUSTRIAL
NEWSLETTER

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND DEVELOPMENT / Hon. A. R. PATRICK, Minister
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH / R. MARTLAND, Director

Vol. 5, No. 5 EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA NOVEMBER, 1961

New Calgary Company Produces Clay Pigeons For Western Sportsmen

Production tests are currently being run by a new Calgary industry which will manufacture clay pigeons used in target shooting and trap shooting competitions. The firm, Ingles, Dobie and Kocher Mfg. Ltd. is located at 150 - 58 Ave. S.W.

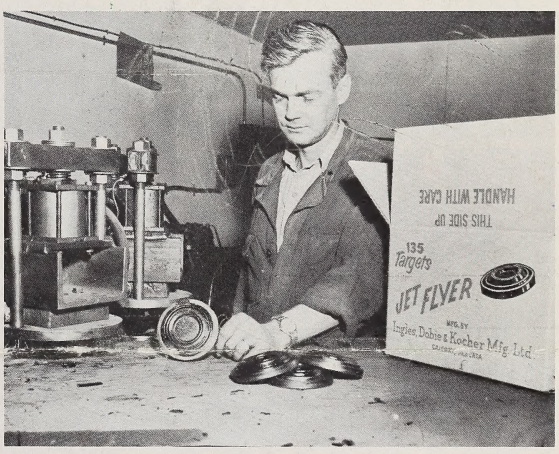
The clay pigeons, or "birds," are made from a form of crushed and ground limestone and specially prepared target pitch. The mixture is melted in a large, gas-fired melting pot. When it reaches a temperature of 350 to 370 degrees F. the liquid is pumped into another tank where the temperature is raised to 380 degrees F. An automatic pump then discharges the fluid into a revolving moulding machine and the pitch is compressed in ten moulds under pressure of 150 pounds per square inch. Moulded three-ounce birds are four inches in diameter.

The company was formed in 1958 by Calgary businessmen R. Ingles, D. Dobie and A. Kocher. Early this year an interest in the firm was purchased by Trans-West Investments, headed by D. W. Ross, C. R. Ross and T. D. McNeill who became plant manager. Plant investment now totals more than $10,000.

Production capacity of the plant equipment, most of which was designed by Mr. Dobie, is 1,200 birds per hour. This is soon to be augmented by a machine capable of turning out 2,400 birds per hour. Alberta limestone is used in the manufacturing process while pitch is purchased in Ontario.

Sales are handled directly to sporting and gun clubs in Western Canada.

Mailing address is 675 Northmount Drive, Calgary. ●



Clay pigeons manufactured by the Calgary firm are used by gun clubs and sportsmen in trap and skeet shooting competitions. Plant manager T. D. McNeill displays some of the "birds."

"GARBAGE-GARD" EXPANSION PLANNED; UNIQUE DEVICE DEVELOPED IN ALBERTA

A device developed by a new Edmonton company to prevent garbage cans from being spilled over by wind, animals or other means has received such consumer approval that the firm is establishing a branch factory in Ontario to handle production for Eastern Canada and export markets.

The successful invention, known as "Garbage-Gard," is produced by the J & S Manufacturing Ltd., of 9158 Jasper Avenue. Principals in the $70,000 venture are Edmonton businessmen John R. Jewell, president and general manager; Glen Treacy, a chartered accountant who is the firm's secretary-treasurer, and Engineer E. (Scotty) Borza, production manager.

The unit is made of heavy gauge steel tubing and is designed to be mounted on a wooden platform which in turn holds two or more garbage cans. Handles extend from the standpipe and clamp onto the can cover. The mechanism holds the cans firm, keeps the lids securely in place and eliminates the hazard of tipping. One-handed operation of the extension handles easily removes or resets the garbage can covers.

An exterior view of the J & S Manufacturing Ltd. plant and offices at 9158 Jasper Avenue in Edmonton.

The "garbage-gard" unit was specifically designed for use in western Canada where garbage is collected from back lanes. For use in Eastern Canada and other areas where back lanes do not exist the company developed a portable garbage dolly which easily moves on wheels.

Production of 600 units per week at the Edmonton plant is marketed from Winnipeg to Victoria. The eastern Canada factory, to be organized at Port Hope, Ontario, is expected to be in operation by November. It will produce from 2,500 to 3,000 units per week initially.

The firm will employ approximately ten persons in the two operations. ●

J. R. Jewell, president, watches as production manager "Scotty" Borza completes assembly of the company's portable version of the "Garbage-Gard."

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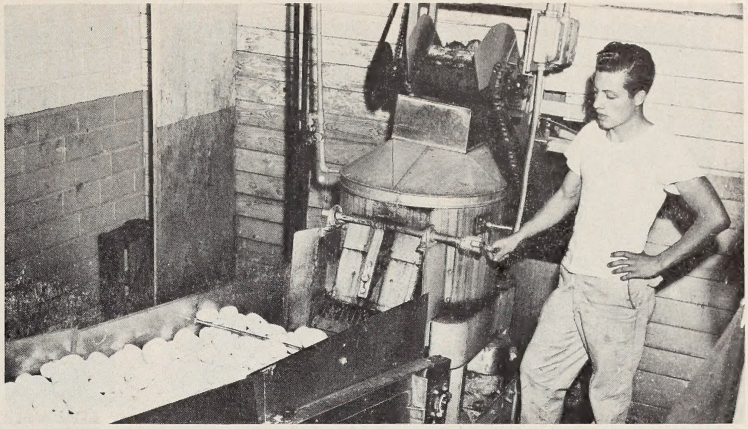
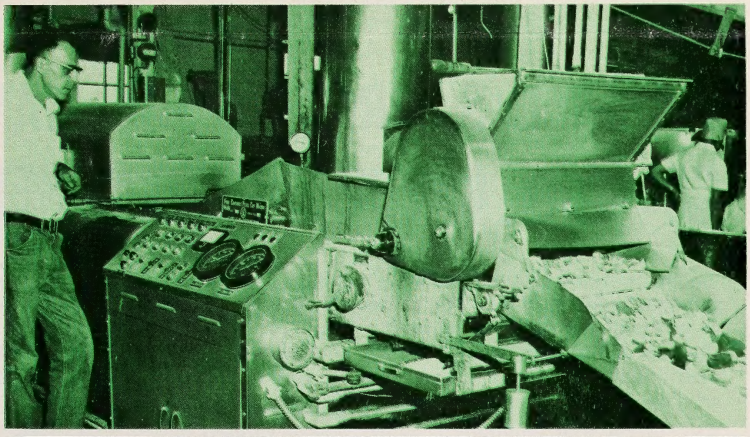
Potato Chips Manufactured at Brooks

Nalley's Ltd., one of Canada's major manufacturers of prepared foods, is supplying the Canadian market with fine grade potato chips from a plant opened three years ago at Brooks, Alberta. The plant, located in a $50,000 brick and corrugated steel building, is equipped with $150,000 of assembly line machinery that enables the product to be completely manufactured and measured for packaging without human handling.

Starting from the temperature and humidity controlled storeroom through which 1,500 tons of potatoes pass annually, the potatoes are dumped in 100-pound lots into an automatic peeler. They are ejected onto a moving belt leading to a rotary slicer where they are cut into wafers. The sliced potatoes are washed again, dried and pass through a large fryer through which vegetable oil is circulated at a constant temperature. Emerging, the cooked chips are automatically salted and travel on a conveyor belt into hoppers above the production floor. By means of an air jet system, the chips are measured by weight without damage. Containers are fitted by hand to plastic funnels revolving on a rotary table. Each portion is deposited into a bag which in turn, after heat sealing, is boxed.

The plant purchases all its potatoes from the Brooks area where are grown the special type needed for frying. The 150 gallons of vegetable oil used daily is purchased from an Edmonton firm. The 14 women and five men employed at the plant operate on one 8-hour shift daily. Monthly payroll approximates $5,000. The Brooks plant services the Alberta, Saskatchewan and interior British Columbia areas for the company. ●





Top—*Potatoes are peeled in this 100-lb. capacity peeler and then transported on a conveyor to a slicing machine.*

Center—*Wafer-thin sliced potatoes are cooked in this machine through which a vegetable oil is circulated.*

Bottom—*Modern packaging equipment automatically deposits measured amounts of chips in each waxed container.*

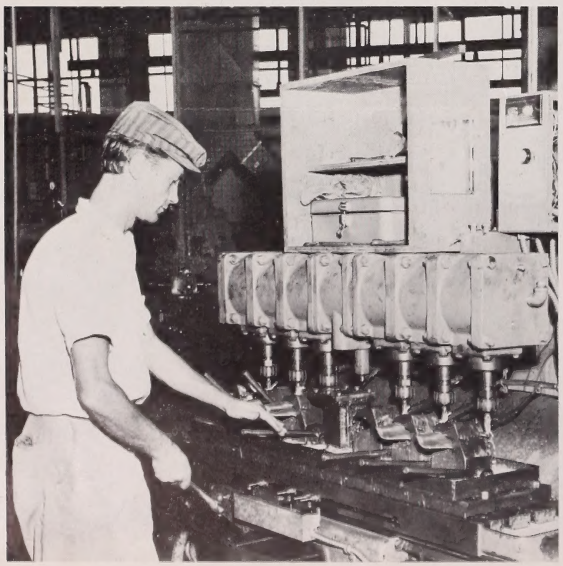
The Ipsen Controlled Atmosphere Furnace used in a carburizing process is believed to be the only one of its kind in Alberta.

Manager of the Calgary firm, Al Consay, examines some of the seismograph drilling bits manufactured by Canadian Oil Tool.

MAJOR U.S. DRILLING BIT MANUFACTURERS JOIN CALGARY GROUP TO FORM NEW COMPANY

A group of Calgary businessmen have completed arrangements with two of the largest manufacturers of seismograph drilling bits in the U.S.A. for the production of the companies' products in a new Calgary operation.

Formation of Canadian Oil Tool Manufacturing Ltd., as the new company is called, was prompted by a revision over a year ago of the tariff classification of seismograph drilling bits.



A staff member operates a multiple spindle vertical milling machine which recesses the seats for the carbide on insert bits.

The company will be utilizing specialized manufacturing techniques and engineering data provided by its U.S. associates—the Oil Tool Manufacturing Co., Incorp., of Tankawa, Oklahoma, and the Varel Manufacturing Co. Inc. of Dallas, Texas. Both the "Williams" and "Varel" line of bits will be produced according to their respective specifications, but entirely from Canadian materials and labor.

The sizes range from 3½ inches to 4¾ inches in diameter and cover all the types of bits used in the industry including starter bits, finger and insert type drag bits and rotary cone type rock bits.

The plant is located on a two-acre site in southeast Calgary. Built at a cost of $52,000 the building has an area of 10,000 square feet, 7,000 of which are devoted to manufacturing and the balance to a well equipped quality control lab, storage, service and office facilities. Equipment which cost in excess of $150,000 includes many specialized machines and welding apparatus as well as a complete heat treating department especially designed for accurate carburizing of parts and utilizing an Ipsen Controlled Atmosphere furnace, believed to be the only one of its kind in Western Canada.

Operating at full capacity the company will employ approximately twenty-five persons with an annual payroll of $100,000. Sales in the order of $300,000 to $500,000 annually are anticipated. Efforts are being made to obtain export sales abroad, particularly to Commonwealth countries. •

European Industrialists Express Much Interest In Alberta's Manufacturing Opportunities

The promotional activities of the Alberta Department of Industry and Development were extended recently in an attempt to acquaint European industrialists with first-hand, reliable information on the manufacturing and investment opportunities available in the province.

The Hon. A. R. Patrick, Minister, represented the Provincial Government at the annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference held in England in September. Part of the conference agenda was a two-week tour of the United Kingdom's industrial areas. Following the conference, Mr. Patrick was joined by Richard Martland, Director of the Industrial Development Branch, for a ten-day concentrated tour of Continental Europe's major industrial centres.

In England, Mr. Patrick found that the country's austerity or "pause" program has temporarily stopped the flow of British capital to other countries. The program has not stopped planning, however, and Mr. Patrick found industrialists very interested in discussing Alberta's development and potential.

British interests at the present time are more concerned with the possibility of outright purchase of existing, successful enterprises and retaining local management, than establishing new plants.

As a result, Mr. Patrick attempted to contact firms which might be interested in licensing arrangements. Several organizations expressed interest in having their products manufactured in Alberta either in existing plants with surplus space and machinery not in full use, or in new plants established by Albertans.

Mr. Patrick and Mr. Martland spent considerable time calling on industrialists of European countries. Contacts were readily made and nearly all were greatly interested in the story of Alberta's progress in recent years. Follow-ups with the contacts and through trade associations should prove invaluable.

The Alberta envoys found a reluctance by European industry generally to establish in Alberta without local partnership or participation, although they were assured everywhere that capital was available for expansion to Canada.

The West German industrial picture today is very bright, according to Mr. Patrick and Mr. Martland, with production there limited by a labor shortage. They found one plant able to meet only 85 percent of its orders, even after importing foreign labor.

On their return to Canada, Mr. Patrick and Mr. Martland represented Alberta at the Annual Provincial Governments' Industrial Conference, held this year in Newfoundland.

Trends reported at the conference indicate that more emphasis is being placed across Canada on licensing arrangements, and that foreign concerns are somewhat reluctant to establish fullscale plants for secondary industry aimed at western Canada markets until the markets for their products are proven. ●

SOUTHERN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE SPONSOR DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Industrial opportunity in Southern Alberta will get a searching appraisal November 13 in Calgary when the Southern Alberta Industrial Development conference meets for a one-day "workshop," believed to be the first of its kind in Canada.

Several hundred persons, including top level representatives from industries which have expressed interest in expanding in Southern Alberta are expected to attend the conference at the Palliser Hotel.

Those attending will get a comprehensive look at a variety of factors affecting industrial development in Southern Alberta—not only the opportunities the area affords, but also how those opportunities are affected by labor, finance, markets, transportation, and domestic competition.

Officials of the 60 chambers of commerce in southern Alberta arranging the conference say the workshop is a definite "stop talking, start doing," phase of Alberta's effort to attract industry to an area of the province which was until a few years ago, almost wholely supported by agriculture.

"This is not a conference to glorify industrial expansion in southern Alberta," an official said. "Those who attend will be shown exactly how the industrial opportunities here are affected by labor, finance, markets and transportation. They'll hear the reasons why one of Canada's largest companies (Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. of Canada) selected southern Alberta as the site of its newest plant."

Featured speaker at the "SAID" conference will be Hon. George Hees, Canada's trade minister who will discuss the diverisification of the Canadian economy.

The one-day session will also include addresses by Alberta's premier, Hon. E. C. Manning, Labor Minister Hon. Raymond Reierson, Industry and Development Minister Hon. A. R. Patrick, Alberta economist Dr. Hu Harries, and prominent financial analyst W. R. Taprell of Calgary. ●

ALBERTA INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES

PICKLES, RELISHES, SAUCES AND CATSUPS

Southern Alberta is well suited to the growing of the various vegetables required in the manufacture of pickles, relishes and sauces.

All pickling crops are raised under irrigation. The southern city of Lethbridge is surrounded by more than 1,000,000 acres of irrigable land although only 750,000 acres is presently being irrigation-farmed.

This area has the most hours of bright summer sunshine in Western Canada. Consequently, pickling crops mature rapidly and are harvested well within the frost-free period.

Farmers are trained in, and accustomed to handling crops under irrigation.

Pickling onions presently being raised are of high quality and yield well, as do cauliflower and cabbage crops. Because of the low market demand they are not grown in appreciable quantities at the present time although it is understood farmers would increase acreage if firm growing contracts were obtained.

Mustard and sugar are available locally and vinegar is manufactured in both Edmonton and Calgary.

There is a large Federal Government Experimental Farm in Lethbridge and a Provincial Horticultural Station near Brooks to assist farmers with any crop problems. Results of extensive studies regarding the production and processing of both brine and fresh pickles, and of cauliflower, onions, tomatoes, etc. are available.

Manufacturers of pickles, relishes, sauces or catsups considering the establishment of a plant in Alberta should appraise the following factors:

—there are no major producers of pickles, relishes, sauces or catsups in the Province at the present time;

—the Lethbridge irrigation area is served by excellent highway and rail connections;

—hand labour costs are relatively low, ranging from $0.80 to $1.20 cents per hour;

—farmers are experienced in growing field crops;

—more than ample irrigation water supply is available;

—high record of summer sunshine hours.

ESTIMATED QUANTITY PICKLES, RELISHES AND SAUCES CONSUMED IN CANADA AND WESTERN PROVINCES 1957-1959

	1957 Gallons	1958 Gallons	1959 Gallons
British Columbia	892,200	926,400	942,000
Alberta	696,000	720,600	745,800
Saskatchewan	527,400	532,800	541,200
Manitoba	516,000	522,000	531,000
Western Canada	2,631,600	2,701,800	2,760,000
Canada	10,367,974	9,917,707	10,892,561

More detailed information on this Alberta manufacturing opportunity has been prepared by the research organizations of the Alberta Department of Industry and Development. Complete data is available on writing Richard Martland, Director, Industrial Development Branch, Department of Industry and Development, Edmonton, Alberta.

TOWN OF WHITECOURT

Location: Sec. 35-59-12-W5 in Census division No. 14. The community is 110 miles northwest of Edmonton on Highway No. 43 and on a branch line of the C.N.R.

Altitude: 2,290 feet.

Temperature: Mean summer, 52.6 degrees F.; mean winter, 19.6 degrees F.; mean average, 36.1 degrees F.

Rainfall: Average annual rainfall, 14.36 inches; average annual snowfall, 59.4 inches; average annual precipitation, 20.30 inches.

Geology: Extensive alluvial deposits of sand and gravel, present along the Athabasca and McLeod Rivers at Whitecourt, may be suitable for development of groundwater supplies. Bedrock is of the Edmonton formation which is late Cretaceous in age. This formation is composed of a series of poorly consolidated sandstone and shale beds with minor coal seams. Groundwater supplies between one-and ten-gallons per minute can be developed in this formation.

Soil: Whitecourt is in the grey-wooded soil zone. Vegetation is mixed deciduous and evergreen woodland in which muskegs and sedge bogs occur. Soils in this zone developed under humid soil moisture conditions, and the depth to lime varies from 30 to 50 inches. They are relatively less fertile than in other areas because of leaching and are low in nitrogen and organic matter. Legumes, hays and coarse grains are the most desirable crops.

History: The history of the community dates back to 1905 when Alberta became a province. Edmonton was the jumping-off point for many settlers from eastern Canada and elsewhere who were bound for unsettled land of the Peace River district. Some of those settled instead near the confluence of the Athabasca and McLeod Rivers and five years later, in 1910, Whitecourt was formed. Several years after 1905 surveyors for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway plotted a rail line to run between Edmonton and Grande Prairie, via Whitecourt. That line never materialized, however, and it wasn't until 1921 that Canadian National Railroad reached the town. Fur trapping and lumbering were the chief industries of the area until discovery of oil several years ago. Absorption plants have been constructed at nearby Windfall and Swan Hills.

Living Conditions: Nestled in a valley of two rivers, Whitecourt is one of the largest settlements between Edmonton and the Peace River District. Six churches supply the spiritual needs of the community and educational facilities provide for teaching of grades one to 12. There are nearly 400 homes and 75 resident mobile homes. Forests abound with moose, elk and deer and the whole area is regarded as one of the best big game hunting districts in North America.

TOWN OF WHITECOURT ALBERTA

Administration: As a "New Town" Whitecourt is governed by a five-man Board of Administrators, three of which are elected, and two appointed by the Provincial Government. A secretary-treasurer administers the affairs of the town in accordance with policies set by the Board.

Laws and Regulations: Plans for all new buildings, repairs or removals must be approved by a Building Commission after which a permit may be issued. The Town has its own zoning bylaw. Electrical installations must conform to the Alberta Electrical Protection Act and sanitary installations must comply with Alberta Public Health regulations. Garbage is collected weekly. There is one resident police magistrate, and one town constable.

Fire Protection: A fire brigade consists of a chief and 15 volunteer firemen who have at their disposal adequate equipment to ensure efficient fire protection. Water is obtained from the McLeod River and pumped into a 150,000-gallon reservoir.

Tax Structure: Total mill rate is 59 mills made up of 30.7 municipal, 24 school, and 4.3 hospital. Total assessment in 1961 was $798,293 based on $99,360 for land, 100 percent of value; $686,900 on improvements, 60 percent of fair value, and $12,033 for power.

Areas: The town encompasses 3,600 acres. Streets, lanes and highways take up 63.2 acres; public parks and playgrounds, 261 acres. There are 8.7 miles of roads, streets and lanes of which 2.5 miles are paved. There are approximately three miles of cement sidewalks.

Sewer and Water Main Mileage: Sanitary sewers, 1¼ miles; storm sewers, nil, water mains, 1¼ miles.

Power: Three-phase 60-cycle power is supplied by Calgary Power Ltd. under a franchise.

Domestic rate: For the first 20kwh or less used per month, $3.30, subject to a 30-cent, 10-day prompt payment discount. All over 20 kwh used per month, .02 cents per kwh.

Commercial Rate: First kw of connected load including energy consumption up to 20 kwh per month, $3.00 net. Each additional ½ kw of connected load, including 5 kwh per month — 50 cents. Energy charge is six cents per kwh for the first 100 kwh per kw; all additional energy per kwh, two cents net per kwh.

Power Rates: Service charge of $1.00 per kva of installation. In this regard one motor horsepower or one kw in heating apparatus considered equivalent to one kilovolt-ampere or kva. Energy charge —first 50 kwh per month per kva of installation, five cents per kwh; next 50 kwh is charged for at the rate of 3 1/3 cents per kwh, and all over 100 kwh per month per kva of installation, 1 2/3 cents per kwh.

Water: Is obtained from the McLeod River and stored in a 150,000-gallon elevated tower. Rates are $3.50 per month, plus $3.00 sewerage charge.

Gas: Natural gas is to be piped into the town.

L.P. Gas: Is available in bulk, at 16 cents per gallon, or at $6.50 per 100-pound cylinder.

Diesel Fuel: Summer grade, 18.4 cents per gallon; winter grade, 19.1 cents per gallon.

Coal: Very little coal is used but is available at $9.00 per ton, delivered.

Local Resources: Sand and gravel, straw, coarse grains, dairy products, poultry and eggs, cattle, horses, sheep and hogs, lumber, oil and gas, furs.

Government Offices and Services: Federal—Department of Transport, Post Office; Provincial — A.G.T., Department of Lands and Forests, Highways, Lac Ste. Anne Health Unit; Municipal—Town Hall housing council chambers, secretary-treasurer offices, police and fire departments, works department, and police magistrate.

Health Services: The nearest hospital is at Mayerthorpe, 23 miles south. The Health Unit personnel call monthly at the school. There are three resident physicians, and one drugstore.

Professional and Skilled Personal Services: Two barber shops, two beauty parlors.

Transportation: Canadian Coachways twice daily service to and from Edmonton. CNR Edmonton to Whitecourt, freight only. Daily trucking service. Two taxi-stands.

Newspapers: Whitecourt Echo printed in Edmonton by Sun Publishing.

Communications: A.G.T., Post Office, C.N. Telegraphs, Edmonton radio and television stations.

Financial Facilities: Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Hotels: Rivers, 26 rooms; Whitecourt, 28 rooms.

Tourist Camps: Five motels with a total of 69 units. Five trailer parks.

Churches: United, Pentecostal, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Anglican, Mormon.

Lodges: Masonic, Knights of Columbus.

Service Clubs: Chamber of Commerce, Lions, Canadian Legion, Church Auxiliaries.

Societies: Home and School Association, Oilmen's Wives Association.

Education: Facilities are provided for the teaching of grades one to 12 along with the following optional subjects: art, French, home economics, shop, typing. There are nearly 350 pupils and 14 teachers.

Theatres and Halls: Legion Hall, Drive-In Theatre.

Youth Activities: Boys—Wolf Cubs, Scouts; Girls—Brownies, Guides.

Sports: There is a covered three-sheet artificial ice curling rink; open air skating and hockey rink; nine-hole sand-green golf course; sports ground, school playgrounds.

Population: Town population, July 1961 estimate, 2,000. Trading area population, 3,500.

Trading Area: North, 50 miles; south, 22 miles; west, 30 miles; east, 15 miles.

Industrial Development: A multi-million dollar pulp and paper mill is under construction within the town limits. Oil and gas was discovered in the district in 1956 with the extent of the fields not yet defined. Processing plants are located near the town.

Choice industrial and residential property can be purchased from private owners.

For further information about Whitecourt write

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